

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, and 4-6 are pending. Claim 1 has been amended. Support for this amendment is found *e.g.* page 5, lines 23-30 and page 6, lines 2-4. Claim 5 contained a typographical error. Appropriate correction has been made. Applicants respectfully request reexamination and allowance of claims 1, 2, and 4-6.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1, 2, 4, and 5 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Michiya (US 6,296,493, hereinafter "Michiya"). Applicants respectfully assert that claim 1 is allowable over Michiya.

Claim 1 recites a pressure welding type anisotropic conductive elastic connector. The connector is formed by fixing a thin unvulcanized rubber sheet of a preform sheet to a reel drum of a reel device, and arranging beryllium copper wires on the thin unvulcanized silicone rubber sheet in parallel to and close contact with each other. The thin beryllium copper wires are reeled up at a constant pitch onto the preform sheet on the face of the drum. Using the drum to reel up the copper wires at a constant pitch is advantageous in achieving high productivity and precision in arranging the wires in parallel and close contact with each other.

Michiya fails to disclose or suggest fixing a thin unvulcanized rubber sheet of a preform sheet to a reel drum of a reel device. Michiya further fails to disclose or suggest reeling up the wires onto the preform sheet on the face of a drum at a constant pitch. Therefore, for at least these reasons, Michiya would not lead a person having skill in the art to the invention of claim 1. Claims 2, 4, and 5 depend from claim 1 and are allowable for at least the same reasons. Applicants do not otherwise concede the correctness of the rejection.

Claim 6 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Michiya in view of Doi (US 6,103,359, hereinafter "Doi"). Applicants respectfully assert that claim 6 is allowable.

Claim 6 depends from claim 1. Claim 1 is allowable over Michiya for at least the reasons stated above. Doi does not overcome the shortcomings of Michiya. Therefore, Michiya would not lead a person having skill in the art to the invention of claim 1, even in view of Doi. Claim 6 is allowable for at least the same reasons. Applicants do not otherwise concede the correctness of the rejection.


In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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